

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAGU 02412 211417Z

51

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 IGA-01 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIEP-01 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FRB-03 /056 W

----- 128436

R 202001Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7264

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SANJ JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 2412

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EPAP, PGOV, NU

SUBJECT: CAMPESINO BEANS BAGGED BY THIRD GENERATION SOMOZAS

1. WE FIRST HEARD THE STORY FROM VETERAN SOMOZA CRITIC P.J. CHAMORRO. ASKED FOR HIS OPINION ON THE CREATION OF THE (CAMPESINO DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE) INVIERNO, HE RESPONDED WITH A STORY TO DEMONSTRATE HIS BELIEF THAT THE SOMOZAS ARE INCAPABLE OF ANY POSITIVE POLICY EXCEPT SELF-INTEREST. HE SIAD THAT RECENTLY IN THE COLONIZATION PROJECT NUEVA GUINEA IN THE ATLANTIC PROVINCE OF ZELAYA, ALL TRADITIONAL BUYERS OF BEANS HAD BEEN REFUSED ENTRY. THE SOLE BUYER WHO RENTED THE SILOS OF THE STATE GRAIN AGENCY INCEI TO STORE THE PRODUCE AND WHO WAS REPRESENTED BY NATIONAL GUARD OFFICERS, CHAMORRO DEDUCED TO BE WEST POINT CADET JULIO SOMOZA, SON OF THE PRESIDENT. CHAMORRO SAID THAT A PRIEST IN THE AREA HAD ORGANIZED A PETITION FROM THE CAMPESINOS COMPLAINING ABOUT THE PRICE PAID BY THE MONOPOLISTIC BUYER. BECAUSE OF THE SOURCE, WE TENDED TO DISCOUNT THE EXTENT OF SOMOZA PARTICIPATION IN THE TRANSACTION WHICH ALSO SEEMED RATHER PETTY STUFF FOR SUCH A BIG GUN.

2. THE STORY SANS NAMES GOT INTO THE NEWSPAPERS VIA CONGRESSIONAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANAGU 02412 211417Z

INQUIRY RESPONDING TO THE COMPLAINTS OF THE COLONISTS. AN

INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS HAS BEEN ORGANIZED TO LOOK INTO THE ALLEGATIONS. THIS TENDED TO REINFORCE OUR SKEPTICISM OF THE SOMOZA CONNECTION AS IT IS UNLIKELY IF NOT INCONCEIVABLE THAT THIS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO BECOME KNOWN THROUGH A CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY. RUMORS PERSISTED, THOUGH, AND A PROMINENT BUSINESS LEADER REPEATED IT TO US ADDING THAT THE BEANS WERE BEING SOLD TO COSTA RICA.

3. CONFIRMATION HAS COME FROM AN UNIMPEACHABLE SOURCE, SOMOZA ELDER SON ANASTASIO, BUT WITH A TWIST. IT SEEMS THAT THE INCEI AGENT IN THE COLONY, FOLLOWING ORDERS FROM HIS CHIEF IN MANAGUA, WAS REFUSING TO BUY THE CAMPESINO BEANS AND WHEN THROUGH NATIONAL GUARD CHANNELS JULIO AND HIS COUSIN, THE SON OF NATIONAL GUARD INSPECTOR GENERAL JOSE R. SOMOZA AND ALSO NAMED JULIO, HEARD OF THIS SHAMEFUL SITUATION, IN A BENEVOLENT GESTURE THEY BOUGHT THE BEANS. WHY THEY DID NOT HAVE THE INCEI OFFICIALS REMOVED INSTEAD IS NOT CLEAR BUT THEIR INVOLVEMENT NOW IS. WHEN TACHITO TOLD THIS STORY TO EMBASSY OFFICERS, HE ADDED THAT HIS FATHER THE PRESIDENT HAD WARNED JULIO TO STAY AWAY FROM GRAIN TRADING. (DURING FIELD TRIP TO NUEVA GUINEA ON MAY 28, USAID DIRECTOR WAS ADVISED BY INCEI REPRESENTATIVE OF LACK OF FUNDS TO BUY BEAN CROP. IN TURN, DIRECTOR OF IAN, THE STATE COLONIZATION AGENCY, WAS INFORMED BY MISSION OF THIS SITUATION.) SHELTON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, FIELD CROPS, VEGETABLES, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANAGU02412
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750217-0291
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750631/aaaabbtz.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CAMPESINO BEANS BAGGED BY THIRD GENERATION SOMOZAS
TAGS: EPAP, PGOV, NU, CAMPESINO DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, (CHAMORRO, P J)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006